



**Socorro Catron
County
FSA Office**

June 2011

**Socorro Catron
County FSA**
103 Neel
Socorro, NM 87801

Phone:
575-835-1710
Fax:
575-835-3872
www.fsa.usda.gov/NM

Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Socorro Catron
County
Staff:**

Dennis Garcia
County Executive
Director

Shelly LeSueur
Program Technician

**County
Committee Members:**

Ruth Ann Harriet,
Chairperson

Andy Carrejo,
Vice-Chairperson

Barbara Adams,
Member

Kit Cornelius,
Member

Linda Rosales,
Member

**COC Regular
Meetings**

Monthly—First
Wednesday after the
first Monday—10:00
AM

LIVESTOCK FORAGE DISASTER PROGRAM (LFP)!!!!!!!!!!!!

*The Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who suffer grazing losses for covered livestock due to: drought conditions or fire on federally managed land. **PRODUCERS IN SOCORRO AND CATRON COUNTIES ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR LFP BENEFITS.** The deadline to apply for small grain losses is July 1, 2011 and the deadline to apply for improved grass losses is December 15, 2011.*

Eligible livestock producers may receive assistance for eligible livestock grazing losses that occur due to drought or fire on or after January 1, 2008 and before October 1, 2011, during the calendar year in which the loss occurs.

County committees can only accept applications after being notified by the National Office of qualifying drought, or if Federal agency prohibits producers from grazing normal permitted livestock on Federal managed lands due to qualifying fire.

For 2010 and subsequent years, signup applications must be filed no later than 30 calendar days after the end of the calendar year in which the grazing losses occurred. Losses must occur in calendar year the application is being filed.

Eligible producers must have obtained a policy or plan of insurance under FCIA or NAP coverage by the applicable state sales closing date.

Additional information about LFP including eligible livestock and fire criteria is available at county FSA offices or online at: www.fsa.usda.gov.

Contact your Socorro Catron FSA office to apply for Livestock Forage Program (LFP) today!

REMEMBER HAY NET

Producers are encouraged to use Hay Net on the FSA website (<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/haynet>). This online service allows producers with hay and those who need hay to post ads so they can make connections. Hay Net is a popular site for farmers and ranchers who have an emergency need, such as the one caused by the current dry conditions. Individual ads can be posted free of charge by producers who complete a simple online registration form the first time they use the site.

ACREAGE REPORTING

Crop Reporting deadlines are approaching. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs.

Acreage reports are required for many Farm Service Agency programs. For crops not covered by the NAP (Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program) crops, acreage reports are to be certified by the **May 15** deadline on small grains and a **July 15** deadline on all other crops.

Exception Crops must be reported 15 calendar days if the crop:

- is covered by NAP. The crop/s must be reported 15 calendar days before the onset of harvest or grazing of the specific crop acreage being reported.
- was Failed acreage. The crop must be reported within 15 calendar days of the disaster event and before disposition of the crop.
- was Prevented planting. The crop must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date.



Greetings,

My name is Dennis Garcia; I am the new County Executive Director for Socorro and Catron County. I think it is appropriate that I take the time to tell you a little bit about myself so that you know who is administering Farm Service Agency programs in Socorro and Catron County. For starters, I was born in Santa Fe, NM. While attending school, I would travel every weekend to the family ranch in El Rito, NM and lend a hand. During my summer breaks I would spend two weeks at a time at the ranch as well. In addition to cattle, we farm alfalfa and mixed forage.

I attended high school at New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell, NM. After I earned my high school diploma from NMMI in May 2005, I returned to NMMI for two more years of junior college. In May 2007, I graduated from NMMI with my Associates of Arts Degree and went on to New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, NM. At NMSU I served as an ambassador for the College of Agriculture and Home Economics (now known as the College of Agriculture Consumer and Environmental Sciences) and majored in Agriculture Business and Agriculture Economics and graduated with my Bachelor's of science degree in December 2009. The following semester I began my graduate degree in Agriculture Extension Education.

In April 2010 the County Operation Trainee position opened in FSA and I applied, I was hired and began COT training in May 2010 in Clovis, New Mexico. I was stationed in Clovis for approximately three months and was then transferred to Las Cruces, NM. I remained in training there for another eight months. In March 2011 I was certified by the FSA State Office as a qualified applicant for a County Executive Director (CED) position. At the end of April 2011 I was hired by the Socorro-Catron County Committee as CED, and assumed the duty of this position on May 23, 2011.

It is not my first time having worked in Catron County, during my summer break while at NMSU I worked as a forestry aid/ wild land fire fighter in the Glenwood Ranger District on the Gila National Forest for the US Forest Service. I look forward to spending time there again getting to know the areas farmers and ranchers.

I also look forward to exploring Socorro County and meeting farmers and ranchers there as well. I am honored to serve Socorro and Catron county agriculture producers and understand that there is a great deal of responsibility administering FSA farm programs. Along with Shelly LeSueur, Program Technician, we intend to provide the very best of farm program service. Although we are new to this environment and challenged daily, we are motivated and striving for perfection. Thank you for your time,

Dennis J. Garcia,
CED
Socorro-Catron County FSA

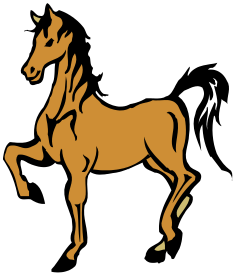


FARM LOANS

FSA makes direct and guaranteed farm ownership (FO) and operating loans (OL) to family-size farmers and ranchers who cannot obtain commercial credit from a bank, Farm Credit System institution, or other lender. [FSA loans](#) can be used to purchase land, livestock, equipment, feed, seed, and supplies. Our loans can also be used to construct buildings or make farm improvements.

Many FSA [loan application forms](#) are available on our website! We also encourage you to contact your [local office or USDA Service Center](#) to learn more about our programs and the information you will need for a complete application.

FSA loans are often provided to beginning farmers who cannot qualify for conventional loans because they have insufficient financial resources. FSA also helps established farmers who have suffered financial setbacks from natural disasters, or whose resources are too limited to maintain profitable farming operations.



LIVESTOCK PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

FSA administers several programs that may be available to assist livestock producers who are dealing with problems caused by the winter weather. Producers need to document the number and kind of livestock that have died as a direct result of these winter storms. There may also be situations where producers are transporting feed to their livestock. Producers should document these additional costs.

Among the key programs are the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) and the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP). For livestock death losses to be eligible under LIP, producers must file a notice of loss with their local FSA office within 30 calendar days from when the loss is apparent to the producer.

Contact your local FSA office for additional information.

ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME

USDA has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Internal Revenue Service to establish an electronic information exchange process for verifying compliance with the adjusted gross income (AGI) provisions for farm programs. Written consent will be required from each producer or payment recipient for the tax review process. No actual tax data will be included in the report that IRS sends to FSA.

The agreement ensures that payments are not issued to producers whose AGI exceeds certain limits. The limits set in the 2008 Farm Bill are \$500,000 nonfarm average AGI for commodity and disaster programs; \$750,000 farm average AGI for direct payments; and \$1 million nonfarm average AGI for conservation programs.

Participants in CCC programs subject to average AGI rules must submit form CCC-927 (Individual) and/or CCC-928 (Legal Entity) to the Internal Revenue Service by June 15 to avoid interruption of program benefits. These forms may be obtained from local FSA and NRCS offices or online at: <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/eforms/mainervlet>

County Committee Elections

The election of responsible agricultural producers to FSA county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers with large or small operations. It is crucial that every eligible producer take part in this election because county committees are a direct link between the farm community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Committee members are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers who serve on committees help decide the kind of programs their counties will offer. They work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

Important Election Dates

June 15, 2011:

Nomination period begins. Nomination forms are available under the Section heading Election Materials on this page as well as from your local FSA Office.

August 1, 2011:

Last day to file nomination forms at the local FSA Office.

November 4, 2011:

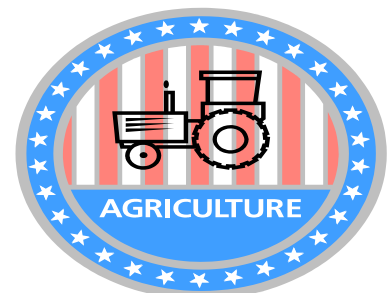
Ballots mailed to eligible voters.

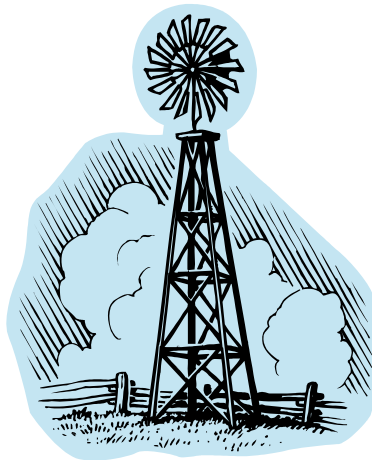
December 5, 2011:

Last day to return voted ballots to the local FSA Office.

January 2, 2012:

Elected committee members and alternates take office.





**FOREIGN INVESTORS MUST REPORT U.S.
AGRICULTURAL LAND HOLDINGS**

Foreign investors with an interest in agricultural lands in the United States are required to report their holdings and any transactions to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. Any foreign person who acquires or transfers any interest, other than a security interest, in agricultural land in the United States is required by law to report the transaction no later than 90 days after the date of the transaction.

Foreign investors must file Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) reports with the Farm Service Agency County Office that maintains reports for the county where the land is located. Failure to file a report, filing a late report or filing an inaccurate report can result in a penalty with fines up to 25 percent of the fair market value.

For AFIDA purposes, agricultural land is defined as any land used for farming, ranching or timber production, if the tracts total 10 acres or more.

Disclosure reports are also required when there are changes in land use. For example, reports are required when land use changes from nonagricultural to agricultural or from agricultural to nonagricultural.

Foreign investors must also file a report when there is a change in the status of ownership such as owner changes from foreign to non-foreign, from non-foreign to foreign or from foreign to foreign.

For more information regarding AFIDA and FSA programs, contact the Socorro Catron County FSA office at 575-835-1710 or visit the USDA Web sites at <http://www.usda.gov>.